

**Consent** means people agree to participate in an activity and understand what they are agreeing to.



**CONSENT**

Freely Given  
Reversible  
Informed  
Enthusiastic  
Specific

Planned Parenthood®

**Freely given** - Not feeling pressured or manipulated, and are not drunk or high.

**Reversible** - Someone is allowed to change their mind at any time. Even if you've done it before, and even if you're both naked in bed.

**Informed** - You can only consent to something if you have the full story. For example, if someone says they'll use a condom and then they don't, there isn't full consent.

**Enthusiastic** - When it comes to sex, you should only do stuff you WANT to do, not things that you feel you're expected to do.

**Specific** - Saying yes to one thing (like going to the bedroom to make out) doesn't mean you've said yes to others (like having sex).

## Consent vs Coercion

**Sexual coercion** is “the act of using pressure, alcohol or drugs, or force to have sexual contact with someone against his or her will” and/or “persistent attempts to have sexual contact with someone who has already refused.” (loveisrespect.org)

Examples:

- Make you feel like you owe them.
- Badger or pressure you after you say no.
- React negatively if you say no.
- Make you feel threatened if you say no.
- Give you drugs and alcohol to loosen you up.
- Play on the fact that you're in a relationship.
- Give you extreme and insincere compliments.
- Try to normalize their sexual expectations:  
ex. “I need it, I'm a guy.”

## Ohio Age of Consent is 16 years old.

An exemption allows minors aged 13 and older to consent to a partner under age 18.

(Ex: 16 & 19 yr can consent; 14 & 15 yr can consent; 15 & 18 yr CANNOT consent; 12 & 15 yr CANNOT consent.)

\*This exemption is NOT black and white. Example factors to consider: perceived power or control in relationship, cognitive development of both parties.

Helpful Resources:

**Loveisrespect.org**  
Call: 1.866.331.9474  
TTY: 1.866.331.8453  
Text: loveis to 22522

**Ohio Sexual Assault Response  
Network of Central (SARNCO)**  
24-Hour Rape Helpline:  
(614) 267.7020

